



High Holidays Services Schedule

(Please note that advance tickets are required for all rooms for Erev Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yizkor/Neilah. Tickets are not required for any other services.)

Erev Rosh Hashanah, Sunday, September 24, Unitarian Center, 7:30 pm. Doors open 6:30 pm. **Tickets required.**

Rosh Hashanah, Monday, September 25, Unitarian Center, 9:30 am. No tickets required.

- **Picnic**, Fort Point, 1:30 pm. Directions will be provided.

- **Tashlich**, Fort Point, 2:15 pm.

Rosh Hashanah, Tuesday, September 26, 9:30 am, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. No tickets required.

Kol Nidre, Tuesday, October 3, Unitarian Center, 7:30 pm. Doors open 6:30 pm. **Tickets required.**

Yom Kippur, Wednesday, October 4, Unitarian Center.

- **Shacharit**, 9:30 am.

- **Study Groups**, 1:15-2:45 pm.

- **Mincha**, 3:30 pm.

- **Reading of the Names**, 4:30 pm. No tickets required for any of the above Yom Kippur Day services.

- **Yizkor**, 5:15 pm **Tickets required.**

- **Neilah**, 6:00 pm **Tickets required.**

Please help spread the word that the additional seating rooms require tickets this year for the services noted.

Annual Cemetery Visit

Our annual High Holiday visit to the Sha'ar Zahav cemetery at Hills of Eternity will be on Sunday, October 1, at 10 am. The event continues the Jewish tradition of Kever Avot — visiting the graves of relatives and loved ones during the High Holiday season. We will conduct a short service of readings, prayers, and Kaddish, remembering all of our members, relatives and friends who have died. If you need directions, call Richard Inlander (821-4134).

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Prospective Members — Join Us!

Have you recently started attending services at CSZ, or even been coming regularly for years, but hesitated to join CSZ as a member? Do you have any specific questions about what membership means, or how to become more involved? If so, the Membership Committee invites you to come celebrate Havdalah, see our highly-praised video (recently produced as part of our 18/10 Celebration), and schmooze over dessert with synagogue leaders. This first-ever event will be held in the CSZ oneg room at 7 pm on Saturday, October 7. If you are already a member, be sure to pass the word to those non-member friends who have occasionally expressed interest in finding out more about CSZ. Flyers will be also be available at Shabbat services and on the Membership table during Rosh Hashanah.

CSZ Returns to Israel

Rabbi Kahn will be leading CSZ back to Israel next year from April 22 to May 5, 1996, at a very special time to be in Israel.

If you are considering participating in the trip, an informational gathering will be held at CSZ on Thursday, Oct. 19 at 7:30 pm.

The itinerary is similar to our magnificent 1993 trip (lots of time in Jerusalem, the Golan, Galilee, special entree to high-level social and political figures, meeting with the gay/lesbian group in Tel Aviv, and free time for the beach, shopping, or just exploring the land and people). This time, however, we will arrive on Israel Independence Day, travel to Petra, Jerash and Amman in Jordan, and participate in festivities around the Jerusalem 3000 celebration. Extensions in Israel and Europe are also available.

A "high class" trip, our accommodations will be in the Moriah Plaza in Tel Aviv (2 nights) and Jerusalem (6 nights), the Intercontinental in Amman (2 nights) and Kibbutz Kfar Blum in the Upper Galilee (2 nights).

High Holiday Festivals Continue

Sukkot Services

- Erev Sukkot Service and potluck, Sunday, October 8, 6 pm at Allan Gold's home, 424 Central Ave., San Francisco.
- Sukkot Morning Minyan, Monday, October 9, 8:30 am at CSZ.
- Sukkot Morning Service, Saturday, October 14, 10 am at Rabbi Kahn's home, 61 Ford St., San Francisco.
- Kadimah and Children's Sukkot Service and Luncheon, Saturday, October 14, 9:30 am at Ora Prochovnik & Rena Frantz's home, 47 Cuvier St., San Francisco.

Simchat Torah Service

- Sunday, October 15, 7 pm at CSZ.

Yom Kippur Food Drive

We will be collecting food for our annual Yom Kippur food drive to benefit Project Open Hand. Items most needed by the Food Bank are soy milk, canned tuna, plastic jars of peanut butter and canned fruits and vegetables. Please bring non-perishable items to Kol Nidre service (Tuesday, October 3) or morning Yom Kippur service (Wednesday, October 4). We will be able to accept food until 1 pm on October 4.

HIV+ Support Group

CSZ has ongoing support services for members living with HIV/AIDS and their families and partners. The fall schedule is as follows:

Friday, October 20, 6 pm: Shabbat Dinner at the home of a member (location TBA)

Saturday, November 18, 3-5 pm: Spiritual Support Group with Rabbi Kahn, at the synagogue

Friday, December 15, 6 pm: Shabbat Dinner at the home of a member (location TBA)

If you have any questions, or would like to put your name on our confidential mailing list, call Amy or Rabbi Kahn at the CSZ office. Please join us.

President's Column

A New Year

As Elul wanes, activity at Sha'ar Zahav builds until the holidays come closer and we greet Tishri with the shofar's sound.

Where did Elul go? It was filled with days of intense planning and activity by our rabbi, office staff and numerous volunteers. All of us know how meaningful, enriching and spiritual our celebrations for Selichot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah are for our congregants and for our guests. We are special and we offer a special venue and experience for the holidays. Each year we rededicate ourselves to doing just that.

This year is no different, except — this year we have initiated a new policy regarding tickets for the additional seating areas in the Unitarian Center. The shofar's sound tells us to wake up! The Va'ad wrestled with this change for three months. We had to awaken to new realities for all of us. We rent the space at the Unitarian Center, and rental fees have increased substantially over the years. Our membership can no longer foot the bill, and we need some regular financial support from those of you who visit us only occasionally. We know you understand and look forward to your joining us on a more regular basis, hopefully as members.

When the shofar sounds on Erev Rosh Hashanah, it marks the time when we hope our logistical and ritual preparations are complete. The ritual and planning committees have developed a full program. The gabbai looks around for service participants and those who are designated to open the ark. Often the gabbai must make last minute substitutions. The sound system is set up and tested. The ushers have been cued and coached for some if not all eventualities. Onegs have been planned, timed and dished up. And all of us come to the Unitarian Center, rushing home from work, eating, dressing, getting there on time to get our right seat.

Take a breath. It's Erev Rosh Hashanah once again at Sha'ar Zahav. Look around you. Greet your friends. Introduce yourself to someone new to you.



David Stein

Take a moment to say *todah la'el* for being here this year at Sha'ar Zahav. Take a moment to bless this congregation and thank all the people who work hard to make this New Year season so wonderful for us all.

I am so glad you are here this year, again. *Leshana Tova.*

Special Music Service

On November 3, join us for a special musical service in celebration of Erev Shabbat. In the spirit of the ancient Temple of Jerusalem, you will hear several instrumental arrangements of our liturgy. For those who could not attend the 18/10 Anniversary Service in May, this will be an exciting opportunity to hear arrangements premiered then, this time in our own home.

Alternative Family Project

The Alternative Family Project (AFP) is an affordable family service agency located in San Francisco for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender members.

The Project co-hosted "Family Day" with the Family Next Door Newsletter on June 10. An event for children of all ages, it featured lunch, a jump tent, special appearances by Roberta Achtenberg and Tom Ammiano and 22 community agencies, including CSZ, that support our families.

Some of AFP's services include: a support and referral line (566-5683), family support groups, family counseling services, events, and forums on topics of interest to families.

AFP currently offers four family groups: Adoption Support, Lesbian Moms, We are Family (for gay men) and Effective Parenting (for parents of children 2-10 years). For more information about these groups or other services, contact Cheryl Deaner (566-5683).



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Rabbi's Column

Beyond the High Holidays

This edition of the *Forward* is being produced a week early in order to be distributed at Rosh Hashanah services. At shul, the phones are ringing, people are at the door and excitement is building. Often when we work on an important project for a long time, we are really relieved when its date finally arrives—despite the last minute rush and stress. When it's over, we breathe a sigh of relief, relax and can't wait to put our feet up and take a break.

After all the intensity of the High Holiday season, wouldn't it be nice to go back to where we left off? In its wisdom, Judaism recognizes this inclination but insists on a different path. The first mitzvah after Havdalah on Yom Kippur is not rushing to the oneg room but going outside to begin building the sukkah—"hammering the first nail," the rabbis taught.

Yom Kippur is a day of separation and withdrawal from the world. We do not go to work, we do not eat, we do not engage in ordinary pastimes, but instead focus intensely on our inner selves, our relationships with others and the world, and with God. Judaism assumes that we are not unchanged for having lived through this day and this season and discourages us from slipping back to where we were before Rosh Hashanah. So we are sent to concern ourselves with the sukkah.

Why the sukkah? The sukkah moderates between the extra-ordinariness of Yom Kippur—the Sabbath of Sabbaths—and the rest of the year. The sukkah on the ground is filled with material things—we are instructed to eat, drink and enjoy the pleasures of life in the sukkah. It has a roof but one can always see the stars, God's tallit, so that we are reminded of the transcendent. The sukkah is a home but it is a portable house without permanent walls—we make it safe and secure by bringing to it the values and commitments we made and affirmed on Yom Kippur. Finally, it is a custom to bring guests to the sukkah—whether living or the spiritual memory of those who have died, recently or in



Rabbi Yoel Kahn

ages past. This custom, called *ushpizin*, invokes the continuity of community and memory which are so important to our observance of Yom Kippur.

Our Ritual Committee and many other volunteers have been busy organizing observances of the High Holidays which will be meaningful and fulfilling for our community. In addition to our services in the main sanctuary, there will be Children's services on the mornings of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Second day Rosh Hashanah services at CSZ are a more intimate and informal way to extend your observance of the New Year. On Yom Kippur, we will again have a variety of discussion groups and opportunities for reflection during the afternoon. In addition, we will be adding an alternative afternoon service, which will explore the themes of the holiday through meditation and Kabbalistic imagery.

Sukkot begins on Sunday evening, October 8. Our traditional gathering and pot-luck at the home of Allan Gold will take place that evening. Sukkot morning services will be led by the Monday Morning Minyan the following morning, beginning at 8:30 am. The climax and conclusion of all this will of course be Simchat Torah, an "only-at-Sha'ar Zahav" event featuring our Klezmer Band on Sunday evening, October 15 at 7 pm. This wild and wonderful service—when we finish reading the Torah scroll and then immediately begin again—will also include the consecration of our new religious school students. Simchat Torah morning services will be held the following morning at 8:30 am.

I look forward to singing, praying, studying and celebrating with you in the New Year. May you and everyone you love be inscribed for a good New Year. *Leshana Tova Tikatevu!*

CSZ Blood Drive

The annual blood drive, co-sponsored by the Women's Chavurah and the Brotherhood, will be held at the Irwin Blood Bank on Saturday, September 30, between 10 am and 2 pm. If you can not donate blood, please come anyway, bring cookies, and/or provide TLC for the donors.

Adult Education Expanding at CSZ

The CSZ Adult Education Committee, from discussions at the annual Advance, is preparing a diverse range of offerings designed to appeal to beginners as well as the more informed. We would like to offer some things that appeal to everyone. In addition to educational offerings from years past, we aim to broaden members' notions of Jewish ritual and spirituality through wider explorations of our culture and history.

Our plan is to have series in different topic areas, guided by key advisor groups, that suggest specific classes or events they want to sponsor or teach. The number and kind of classes or events will vary for each series, according to the plans of the advisory groups, and the Adult Education Committee will handle the logistic arrangements. One goal for each series is to plan a range of in depth classes from the very beginning to the more advanced level. For example, a short class on "Everything You Wanted to Know About Torah Study But Were Afraid to Ask" might be offered before Simchat Torah, in order to facilitate self-study and encourage individuals who might not feel ready for a formal ongoing Torah Study group.

We hope to offer some classes each month. Some series will offer classes more frequently (such as folk dancing or music or cooking) while others might offer fewer events in a season (such as an outing to a Jewish Museum with a related lecture). The series tracks identified thus far are (in no particular order): Folk Dancing; Jewish Holidays/Life Cycle Celebrations; Food and Cooking; Books, Museums and Cultural Events; Music and Singing; Arts and Crafts; and Health, Healing, and Psychological Issues.

Do you have advisory expertise or a hidden talent you might share through teaching a class? Please call Claire Rapoport (824-5007) or Judith Cohen (927-2247), or leave a message at the CSZ office.

Don Albert Unveiling

The memorial stone of Don Albert, past president of CSZ, will be unveiled at the CSZ Cemetery on Sunday, Oct. 22, at 10:30 am.

Sukkot: Gathering in Joy to Transcend Fear

—by Nina Wouk for the Ritual Committee

Sukkot may be the most cryptic of major Jewish festivals, with ceremonies that have long lost their original meanings. According to one ancient source, Sukkot began with Abraham, who invited the traveling angels into his sukkah. The Torah's first reference to Sukkot lists the three pilgrimage festivals, including "the Feast of Ingathering, at the end of the year, when you gather in the results of your labor from the field." (Exodus 23:16) Leviticus 23:42, a much later text, adds "You shall dwell in sukkot seven days." One of the later writings, Nehemiah (8:15-18) describes the people gathering four species of trees, the first building of the sukkah "since the days of Joshua," and the public reading of the Torah. Thus, it might seem that Sukkot started as a simple harvest festival and acquired its rituals and symbols later. But the ritual and symbols themselves bespeak an outlook as timeless as the human dependence on the earth for food, a heritage as ancient as our people's first settlement in the dry and rocky hills along the Jordan.

As early as the Second Temple, and probably well before, the Sukkot rites centered around prayers for help, for rain, and for life. Central to the Second Temple Sukkot ritual was the ceremony of water-pouring, in which the altar, which had been ritually purified on Yom Kippur, received the only annual offering of water. This all-night rite was the most joyous celebration of the year, accompanied by oil-fires which lit up the whole city, flute-playing, torch-dancing, trumpet-blown, and, possibly at some periods, sexual license. The song "Shofteh mayim v'sason" (they shall draw water with joy from the wells of salvation) refers to this ceremony, which Rabbi Akiba said was meant to bring the rain in its correct season. Even now, the traditional prayer book includes a prayer for rain, recited regularly during the season when the dry lands of the Middle East need rain to be productive for the next year, a period that begins at the end of Sukkot.

While the entire nation rejoiced together on Sukkot at the Temple in Jerusalem, the cohanim and levites encircled the Temple waving lulavs and chanting "Save us, we beseech You, for Your sake, our God!"

The entire holiday of Sukkot, the only period when the Torah commands rejoicing, has a strong undercurrent of anxiety — of muted mortal fear. Our ancestors lived from year to year, from harvest to harvest, subject, as the Torah tells us, to starvation in the event of drought. The earth yielded life in a good year and, in a bad year, the same earth swallowed the dead.

The rabbis who designed post-biblical Judaism instituted the reading of Kohelet (Ecclesiastes) for Sukkot, with its constant reminders of limits of human life and human wisdom. But Kohelet shows a way to accept the unexplainable — through observing the mitzvot, through rejoicing in, through sanctifying the details of life. This is part of the grandeur of rabbinic Judaism. The rabbis didn't avoid the great questions; but they knew better than to try to answer them. The answer to fear is to maintain the traditions of ingathering: gather to rejoice, to share good and bad, to strengthen each other in the hope of a good year.

Sukkot requires fear to be faced communally, to be spoken in a time of great joy. Death and its shadow are not unspeakable secrets, nor are they facts our nature can easily accept. They are realities, which we can admit, and transcend, together.

Task Force on Non-Jews

As many of you know, the Va'ad has set up a "Task Force on the Role of Non-Jews in the Synagogue." Congregations throughout the country are exploring the impact that the changing American Jewish community has on the synagogue. There are an increasing number of interfaith couples and families joining our synagogue. Other non-Jews are joining because they enjoy the special spirituality that our synagogue offers. As these non-Jewish members become involved in congregational life, we are challenged to understand the balance between preserving the integrity of being a Jewish religious organization and responding sensitively to all those who choose to associate with us.

The spectrum of opinions on the task force is broad. We know that suggesting standards may cause disagreement, pain and some hurt feelings. We hope that our discussions will engender openness, respect and awareness of other feelings and beliefs.

We are not working in a vacuum. We have met with representatives of the Ritual Committee, the Dues Committee, and the Membership Committee. We are examining contemporary American Reform response. We have met with Rabbi Kahn to help clarify the sources of our Jewish values and how they can help guide us through this difficult process.

Our goals are:

- To help non-Jews (and their Jewish partners) to understand the synagogue's boundaries in ritual, governance and education.

- To help Jews understand the perspective of non-Jews who may become involved in congregational life, but who, for various reasons, do not choose to convert.

Many questions have been raised. Some are:

- In ritual matters, must one be Jewish to bless the Shabbat candles during our services? May a non-Jew lead the Congregation in worship? How can a non-Jew participate in the Torah service? What should the role of the non-Jewish parent be during b'not and b'nai mitzvah ceremonies?

- What roles can non-Jews assume in the governance of the synagogue? May they be officers of the congregation? May

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"Is There a Jew in Spanish Harlem?"

— Sarah R. Comerchero

Before the Beatles, before Vietnam, before P.C.s and sushi bars and Prozac, there was....jr. high.

I lived in the southernmost tip of Brooklyn during those glory days of pre-pubescent awareness that "a change was gonna come." There are four ocean communities running along the Atlantic in Brooklyn: Manhattan Beach (where I lived) which was almost entirely Jewish (read Ashkenazi), Brighton Beach, which was predominately Jewish (read Ashkenazi) Coney Island, which was an ethnic and racial mix, and Sea Gate, a gated and guarded community, mostly Jewish (read you know what). I attended P.S. 225 in Brighton Beach during those two years. The student body, drawn from Manhattan and Brighton Beaches, and most of the faculty and administration, were Jewish (y.k.w.). My name, then as now, was Comerchero. My parents were born in Turkey. My mother was raised in Cuba, and her speech reflected her Spanish-speaking upbringing. She also cooked wonderful but "exotic" foods: Yaprakas (Dolmas), bamyas (okra in tomato sauce), cheese filled filo (not filo) triangles, dairy meals that included ceso blanco (feta



cheese), kashcaval and big salty Greek olives. My friends were entranced.

Still, back then, Sephardic culture was, for the y.k.ws., an unknown quantity. So yes, of course we were Jewish, but it was all rather strange.

Meanwhile, back at P.S. 225, was this boy named Barry. Some of my girlfriends told me he "liked me." I thought that was nice, and that he was also nice, but I didn't really "like him" back. One day on my way to class, this nice boy who liked me stopped me in the hall, looked me nervously in the eye, and said "Sarah, you're a Spic," then turned and walked away, leaving me mystified.

I entered the room for my next class and approached my friend Susan. I asked—"What's a Spic?" "A Spic? Uh, why?" "Because Barry just called me one." "Well, uh, it means Puerto Rican, but it's not a nice word. You know." "Puerto Rican? I'm not Puerto Rican. And even if I were, why would Barry want to use such a mean word?" All through class I thought about it. Then the bell rang and I stepped into the hall. And there, once again, was Barry.

"I'm sorry, I'm really sorry. My friends told me it was something good, that you'd like it if I said it. I just found out what it means. I'm really sorry." He was a wreck, victim of a stupid prank by dumb boys who wanted to embarrass him with his "crush." An ugly word from an ignorant boy. My first true ex-

perience with "Comerchero? What kind of name is that? You're not Jewish!"

Years later I was working on the Upper West Side of New York. One day in a local luncheonette I was sitting alone in a booth with a salad and a book. I looked up, and coming through the door was Barry, accompanied by two women. We looked at each other with instant recognition. He gave me a half wave. I half-waved him back. We didn't speak. He sat with his back to me. Soon I left.

Maybe to Barry I was just another girl from jr. high, and what had transpired that day in 1958 seemed too trivial and too distant to be of concern. Maybe he was uncomfortable with the memory. Maybe he just forgot it ever happened. But of course, I never did. And as I stepped outside to walk back to work, I felt the rhythm of the music on the streets where Puerto Ricans were living. And I smiled.

Jewish Buddhists

Are you interested in joining like-minded others to begin a sitting and walking meditation group? Do you long for a place to integrate both your Jewish and Buddhist practices? As a place to start, perhaps we can read *The Jew in the Lotus* together? There will be time for both silence and discussion. Call Shuli Goodman at 282-7234, or email: shuli@well.com.

Grieving and Growing

A spiritual support group for Jewish people living with the loss of a loved one will meet for six sessions on Tuesdays from Nov. 14-Dec. 12, from 3-4:30 pm at Jewish Family & Children's Services, 1600 Scott St. The group is co-sponsored by Ruach Ami: Bay Area Jewish Healing Center and JFCS. Facilitators are Rabbi Amy Eilberg, Director of Ruach Ami's Jewish Hospice Program, Kol Haneshama, and Lee L. Pollak, LCSW, Coordinator of Bereavement Programs at JFCS. The cost is \$120 for the six sessions and fee adjustment is available. To register or for more information call Ruach Ami: Bay Area Jewish Healing Center (750-4197).



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Non-Jews

Continued from page 4

they serve on the Va'ad? Which committees may they chair?

- Is outreach to interfaith couples a current goal of CSZ? Should we be encouraging non-Jewish partners of Jewish congregants to join? If so, is there some alternative to the current Affiliate membership?

- Who explains membership limitations?

Now that the task force has met with various committees, we want to talk to you. Whether you are part of an interfaith couple, a non-Jewish member of the congregation or an interested Jewish member of the congregation, we need your input. If you're not a member, possibly because you are confused about the role of your non-Jewish partner in the synagogue, please come meet with us.

We will be holding two open "town meetings" at the Synagogue. The first will be on Wednesday, November 8 from 7-9 pm. The second will be the following Sunday afternoon, November 12, from 3-5 pm. These "town meetings" will give you and the task force the opportunity to share your thoughts, your concerns and your feelings with each other.

Please join us.

Onegs

These generous people sponsored onegs during the month of September:

1	Bonnie Bishop & Amy Weston , in celebration of Bonnie's 40th birthday.
15	Melissa Grossman & Angela Naples , in honor of their wedding.
29	Ellen Goldstein, Jim Frazin & Daphne Stuart , in honor of their birthdays.

Mitzvah Care for the Elderly

Jewish Family and Children's Services, Ruach Ami, and the San Francisco Ministry to Nursing Homes are combining efforts as Mitzvah Care for the Elderly to bring the Jewish spirit to the elderly in our community. Together, they are searching for volunteers to visit Jewish residents in nursing homes. They are seeking volunteers who are interested in a Jewish and spiritual connection and enjoy spending time with older people. The minimum commitment is one hour every week for one year.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to reach out to isolated seniors and benefit from a significant relationship while doing a mitzvah. There will be orientation, training, continuing education and a strong support network for the volunteers. The focus of this program will be to emphasize the spiritual dimension of aging.

Mitzvah Care for the Elderly will begin this fall. Please contact either Sheryl Groden (561-1244) or Rabbi Jeffrey Silberman (885-7785) with any questions.

Jewish Women's Conference

Celebrating Diversity, Creating Community, the 1995 Jewish Women's Conference, is set for November 5, 9 am to 6:30 pm at the Fashion Center, 699 8th St., San Francisco.

The one-day conference will feature poet Irina Klepfisz and San Francisco Jewish community leader Dr. Anita Friedman, along with more than 80 workshops on Jewish identity, self-expression, social action and spirituality/learning. One thousand Jewish women of all ages, backgrounds and lifestyles are expected to attend. CSZ is a co-sponsor and CSZ members have been active planners and will be participants.

The conference goal is to reach out to diverse groups of Jewish women and bring them together for a day of learning, making connections and sharing experiences, both for personal growth and to strengthen the Bay Area Jewish women's community.

Admission of \$45 covers workshops, speakers, continental breakfast, and closing reception. (No one will be turned away for lack of funds.) Kosher and vegetarian lunches will be available for purchase. To receive registration information and full details about workshops, phone the conference office (777-3077) or fax (495-4897).

Guest speaker Irina Klepfisz is also an essayist and translator of Yiddish fiction and poetry. She is a teacher and activist in the lesbian/feminist and Jewish communities.

Dr. Anita Friedman is executive director of Jewish Family & Children's Services in San Francisco. Under her leadership, JFCS has created highly regarded programs, including the nation's first Jewish AIDS program and the Dream House transitional housing program for homeless women and children.

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Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions of all sizes to mark any event and to add to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless otherwise requested.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

AIDS Fund

Mike Rankin, with appreciation of Willis Howe and his lovely assistants Walt and Colin for their warm Russian River hospitality to Mike Rankin and the East Bay Vets Irish Football and Needlepoint Society.

General Fund

Ron Wolberg, in memory of Edward Wolberg.

Henry Carrey, in memory of Solomon Post. **Steve Elman and Tom Holt**, in honor of

Jonathan Goldman, his parents' anniversary and his mother's 75th birthday.

Nikki Pusin, Steve Sklar and Noah Sklar, with prayers for the complete and speedy recovery of Dr. Richard Rath.

Benjamin Brody

Phyllis and George Mintzer, in memory of Harry Opal and Isaac Mintzer.

Barbara J. Meislin

Kalis Inclusive Liturgy Fund

Mike Rankin, in honor of the courage of Shannon Faulkner.

Library Fund

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in memory of Joseph Wiseman.

The CSZ Fiction Group (Bill Goldstein, Mark Mackler, Richard & Susan Goldwasser, Ed Tanovitz, Gordon Osser and Adryann Strauss), in memory of Shem Tsipur and Dr. Allan Kahn.

Margarita Bekker

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jonathan Funk

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Barbara Ritzma, in honor of the namings of Benjamin Ritzma Porter and Noah Ritzma Porter.

Richard Inlander, in memory of Bill Schlichter.

Thomas Yazman Memorial Scholarship Fund

Bruce and Ginny Stadwiser, in honor of the anniversary of Howard & Susan Geifman.



Birthdays

2	Sharyn Saslafsky
2	Greg Rubin
3	Steve Davis
4	Mark Mackler
4	Richard Inlander
4	Julie Moed
5	Benjamin Bernard-Herman
5	Lisa Steinberg
7	Michael Zimmerman
7	Randy Heilbrunn
7	Scott Feinstein
7	David Wasserman
8	Marc Cohen
9	Stephen Hauptman
10	Lisa Ginsburg
11	Forrest Kincade
12	Jeffrey Lilly
12	Debra Chasnof
13	David Gellman
13	Joshua Kennedy-Rose
14	Samuel Braverman-Kennedy
14	Sharon Tanenbaum
15	Michael Bettinger
15	Tsipora Frantz Prochovnick
16	William Denebeim
16	Kim Klausner
16	David Stier
16	Richard Meyerson
17	Andrea Palash
17	Deborah Hoffmann
18	Steven Horowitz
18	Lisa Ellen Niver
20	Ronald Moskowitz
20	Bonnie Weissberg-Sutin
20	Bernard D. Pechter
21	Yehuda Hyman
21	Charles Norton
22	Dee Hibbert-Jones
23	Seth Charney
23	Ma'ayan Lieberman
24	Shuli Goodman
24	Rachel MacLachlan
25	Judith Cohen
25	Alison Austin
26	Ilana Bernstein
27	Sanford Lowe
28	Yoel Kahn
28	Nina Yang Hall
28	Ilana Rainero-de Haan
28	Thomas Sattler
29	Allan Berenstein
29	Pamela Miller
31	Jesse Hornstein



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Prayerbooks Thanks

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav wishes to thank the following generous individuals who dedicated prayerbooks this year and helped to underwrite the costs of reprinting our High Holiday machzorim:

Edward Pollock, in loving memory of Alan Ellis.

Jacob Robinson, for my Zaida, Max Shore, who gave me the will to continue life's struggle in the face of death.

Arthur Slepian, in memory of George and Sarah Slepian.

Joe Puchot and Barak Gale, in loving memory of Robert Sterman.

Randy Heilbrunn, in memory of Edward B. Heilbrunn.

Randy Heilbrunn, in memory of Nick Papadopolous.

Allan Berenstein, in loving memory of Nancy Stern.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Bill Schlichter.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Frank Hyman.

Lolma Olson and Beth Reed, in loving memory of Willie D. Olson.

Lolma Olson and Beth Reed, in loving memory of Clifford C. Olson.

Lolma Olson and Beth Reed, to our friend in loving memory of Jay Feinstein.

Henry Carrey, in memory of Jeffrey Sayles.

H. Gordon Osser, in memory of his mother, Jeannette Chudacoff Osser.

H. Gordon Osser, in memory of his father, Maurice William Osser.

H. Gordon Osser, in memory of his sister, Isabel June Osser Fleming.

Tiela Chalmers, in loving memory of Lillian and Irving Fox.

Mark Vogel and Bill Denebeim

Ellen Lewin, in memory of her father, Joseph D. Lewin.

Ellen Lewin, in memory of Beatrice Sheinman.

Bryan Freedman, in memory of Harry Frebowitz.

Robert Cohen, in loving memory of his father, Joseph Cohen.

Florence and Steven Nacamulli, in loving memory of Emila Nacamulli.

Florence and Steven Nacamulli, in loving memory of Angela Nacamulli.

Florence and Steven Nacamulli, in loving memory of Sophie Resnick.

Florence and Steven Nacamulli, in loving memory of Noah Resnick.

Florence and Steven Nacamulli, in loving memory of Mark Pearlman.

Steven Levine and Lane Schickler, in honor of Bunny Goldfarb for bringing them together.

Sharyn Saslafsky and Catherine Dodd, in honor of Esther Saslafsky.

Michael A. Zimmerman, in memory of Julia and William Zimmerman.

Michael A. Zimmerman, in memory of Anna and Benjamin Azimow.

Susan Stahl, in loving memory of her grandparents, Sarah and Louis Stahl.

Susan Stahl, in loving memory of her grandparents, Margaret and Ben Nebenzahl.

Eve Meyer and Jim Edlin, in loving memory of Joseph Kenneth Edlin and Pearl Peskind Edlin.

Eve Meyer and Jim Edlin, in loving memory of Hans Meyer, M.D. and Hilda L. Meyer.

Lonnie Weiss, in honor of her parents, Vera and Joseph Weiss.

Ellen Goldstein, in memory of Martin Sugarman.

Jody Patraka, in memory of her beloved father, Buddy Patraka.

Israel

continued from page 1

The trip includes 5 dinners (two erev Shabbats), daily breakfast, and all entry fees and taxes. Based on double occupancy, the cost is \$2,849; for single occupancy, add \$495.

A deposit of \$150 is required no later than November 3, but the earlier you place your deposit, the better. Space is limited and is open to CSZ members and their family (broadly defined). Deposits are fully refundable up to 45 days before departure (March 7, 1996) and should be sent to the office made payable to ARZA Travel.

Flyers are available at the synagogue. For a more detailed itinerary or if you have any questions, please call Ron Lezell (626-5748).

Eighteen Years Ago...

Some highlights from the October 1977 *Gaily Forward*:

- Members of CSZ had scheduled a meeting with the incoming and outgoing heads of the Northern California Orthodox community.
- Sha'ar Zahav became the 15th known gay Jewish organization in the world. (Today there are 62.)
- A reprint of Herb Caen's San Francisco *Chronicle* column mention of Sha'ar Zahav's first services.

If You're Under 18, and Play an Instrument ...

The CSZ Klezmer Band is looking for young musicians to play with us on Simchat Torah in October. Kids will work with the members of the band to learn a tune or two, and we'll all play together to keep the dancing lively at the Simchat Torah celebration. To find out more, please call Dev Felder Noily (753-5097).

Members' Yahrzeits

6	Jeffrey Miller
8	Duane Kearns Puryear
12	Rabbi Ben Marcus
13	Harry Clinton Biggelstone
18	Henry Mautner
24	Glenn Murray Miller
29	Michael Mohr

Trotsky and Frida

CSZ has reserved ten tickets to see A Traveling Jewish Theatre's "Trotsky and Frida" on Sunday, October 22 at 2 pm. This play explores the intersection of the lives of two of this century's most compelling figures: Leon Trotsky, the architect of the Russian Revolution, and Frida Kahlo, the legendary Mexican painter during Trotsky's exile in Mexico.

If you are interested, please reserve a ticket by calling Dana Katz, Program Coordinator, at the CSZ office. Tickets cost \$12.50 each and must be reserved by Wednesday, October 11.

Reeboks for CSZ

It's a long story: here's the punchline. My cardiologist said I must walk the treadmill every day, so I bought the top-of-the-line walking shoe. My physical therapist said, "Those are great shoes, terrific cushioning. But unfortunately your ankles can't support them. Get a different pair." So I am offering these shoes to someone who can use them.

They are Reebok Walking DMX, Women's 7 1/2, white with a touch of racing green; they still look and smell new. You can own them by simply arranging to pick them up and making a donation to the fund of your choice at CSZ in the hope of better health for all. Call Susan (668-2272).

State Pays Private Insurance For Medi-Cal Patients

If you qualify for Medi-Cal and also have private health insurance, don't cancel your private policy. Medi-Cal may pay the premiums.

Medi-Cal's Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) and Employer Group Health Plan (EGHP) programs are able to pay private health insurance premiums for Medi-Cal patients who have high monthly medical costs. If your monthly medical costs are at least twice as much as your monthly premiums and if your insurance is not through another government-subsidized program, then you may qualify to have Medi-Cal pay your premiums.

For more information, please call 1-800/952-5294 and push 111 to ask about HIPP and EGHP programs.

Naches

To **Melissa Grossman and Angie Naples** on their marriage.

To **Jane and Mark Graeven** on the renewal of their vows on the occasion of their 20th anniversary.

To **Hilary Zaid and Lauren Augusta** on their 5th anniversary.

To **Rebecca Doctors-Cohen** on receiving a California State Scholar award from the Johns Hopkins University Center for Gifted and Talented Youth.

To **Callin Ludden-Moses** on the occasion of his Upshernish.

To **Lisa Wuennenberg** on celebrating her 40th birthday.

To **Hal Podgur** on the marriage of his daughter Marcie to Paul Rogers on September 2.

To **Batya Kalis**, who celebrates 50 years in San Francisco on October 31.



Anniversaries

1	Susan L. Feldman & Jeffrey J. Argentos
3	Linda Gerard & Daniel Grossman
11	Ellen Murland & Barbara Rinkoff
12	Alex Ingersoll & David Stein
13	Tiela Chalmers & Nancy Koch
17	Eileen Levy & Jeanette Nichols
20	Hilary Zaid & Lauren Augusta
23	Steven Gaynes & Richard Bolingbroter
29	William Goldstein & Chris Archuleta



Classifieds

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LESBIAN/GAY FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES Marsha Blachman, LCSW, Audrey Martin, MFCC, Margie Cohen, LCSW and Lesley Sternin, LCSW now offering individual, relationship and family counseling for families parenting through the life-cycle. We're independent practitioners with East Bay offices (510/412-7014).

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Roberta Achtenberg, Mary Morgan and Benjamin Achtenberg
(Welcome back!)

Kenneth J. Altman

Marianne Balin, Annie Downs and Nora Downs

Gary Birnbaum, Laura Strauss, Nathan Birnbaum and Jonah Birnbaum

Ann Bluethenthal

Mary Jane Eisenberg

Nancy Feinstein, Glenn Shor, Ray Feinstein Cagan, Sara Feinstein Shor and David Feinstein Shor

Rena Fischer

Susan Jacobs, Byron Sigal, Adam Sigal and David Sigal

Rafael Klouczensky

Lynne Portnoy

Stanley M. Yantis

Jonathan Zimman

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

Community Advocates Sought

Are you interested in a project to combat the recent targeting by the tobacco industry of the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered (LGBT) community? Community Focus and the S.F. Department of Public Health are looking for people who are interested in being "community advocates" on this issue. All volunteers will be trained.

Substance abuse in the LGBT community is distressingly high. Recent estimates of smoking prevalence indicates that a large percentage of gay men and lesbians smoke.

If you are interested in participating as a community advocate, please contact Community Focus (956-1811).

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, 861-6932. To request permission to reprint material, call Robin Leonard (386-7876).

Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. For \$18/year, nonmembers will receive a *Forward* subscription.

Members of the Newsletter Committee

Co-chairs: Rose Katz and Robin Leonard

Editorial Coordinator: Batya Kalis (821-3855)

Layout Coordinator: Rose Katz

Editing/Proofreading/Layout: Alison Cohen, Joe Hample, Stephan Howard, Richard Inlander, Robin Leonard, Martha Moon, Dona Rabinowitz, Allyn Stern, Sam Thal

Photography: Michael Bettinger

Advertising: Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@aol.com)

Distribution: Joe Hample, coordinator; Alison Cohen, Virginia Donohue, Leora Eisenberg, Tess Johnson, Stan Kern, Mark Klaiman, Michael Magedman, Gordon Osser, Drew Parker, Sam Thal, David Weinstein, Eli Weinstein, Sylvia Weisenberg

Typesetting: David Lester, Mouse Type Inc.

Printing: Genesis Printing & Graphics

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

Synagogue Information

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Officers:

President: David Stein (863-4769 or david.stein@internetmci.com)
Administrative Vice President: Diana Buchbinder
Program Vice President: Judith Cohen
Treasurer: Michael Zimmerman
Recorder: Dona Rabinowitz

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Michael Chertok
Jonathan Comisar
Lyssa Friedman
David Gellman
Lisa Katz
Ed Lopatin
Carolyn Pines
Lane Schickler
Susan Tubbings

CSZ Staff:

Office Manager: Lea Salem
Kadimah Principal: Phyllis Mintzer
Rabbi Kahn's Asst.: Amy Clark
Program Coord.: Dana Katz

Committee Chairs:

Archives: open
ARZA contact: Ron Lezell
Bequests and Donations: Richard Inlander
Bikkur Cholim: David Shaber
Brotherhood: Stephan Howard
Building: Ellen Gierson (510/658-8713)
Bylaws: Edward Pollock
Cemetery: Richard Inlander
Cookbook Project: Robin Leonard and Rose Katz
Dues: Lisa Katz and Sara Haber
Education: Claire Rappoport
Endowment Fund: Richard Inlander
Finance: Michael Zimmerman
Fine Arts: Alice Prussin

Fundraising: open
Gift Shop: Jeff Rubin
Infant-Toddler Chavurah: David Couch
Leadership Development: Irene Oguus
Long-Range Planning: Allan Gold
Membership: Sara Haber & Larry Wexler
Newsletter: Rose Katz & Robin Leonard
Oneg: Allan Giannini
Past Presidents Council: Merry Luskin
Personnel: Diana Buchbinder
Pre-school Chavurah: Nancy Meyer
Public Relations: Sharyn Saslawsky
Religious School: Ron Lezell & Martha Rosett
Ritual: Ora Prochovnick
Social Action: Eloise Magenheim
Volunteer Coordinator: Nathan Robinson
Women's Chavurah: Dona Rabinowitz

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. Please call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 861-6938.

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have the rabbi or a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Robin Leonard, liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Lane Schickler, liaison).

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month. Morning Minyan meets Mondays at 8:30 am.

Gift Shop Hours: Fridays, 7:30-8:05 pm.

Library Hours: Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

OCTOBER

1 Sunday
7 Tishri
• 10am, Women's Chronic Illness group
• 10:30 am, Annual cemetery visit

2 Monday
8 Tishri
• 8:30am, Morning Minyan
• 6 pm, Healing service

3 Tuesday
9 Tishri
Kol Nidre
• 7:30 pm, Unitarian Center

4 Wednesday
10 Tishri
Yom Kippur
• 9:30am, Shacharit
• 1:15 pm, Study Groups
• 3:30pm, Mincha
• 4:30 pm, Reading of the Names
• 5:15 pm, Yizkor
• 6 pm, Neilah

5 Thursday
11 Tishri

6 Friday
12 Tishri
• 7:30pm, Niggun service
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat service

7 Saturday
13 Tishri
• 9:30am, Kadimah
• 7 pm, Havdalah for prospective members

8 Sunday
14 Tishri
Erev Sukkot
• 6 pm, Festival service and potluck at Allan Gold's home

9 Monday
15 Tishri
Sukkot
Office closed
• 8:30am, Morning Minyan Festival Service for Sukkot
• 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting

10 Tuesday
16 Tishri
11 Wednesday
17 Tishri
• 7 pm, Newsletter editing
• 7:15 pm, Jewish Faith & Heritage
• 8:30pm, Beginning Prayerbook Hebrew 1B

12 Thursday
18 Tishri
• 6:30 pm, Dues committee meeting

13 Friday
19 Tishri
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat service

14 Saturday
20 Tishri
• 9:30 am, Kadimah at CSZ, followed by Family service and lunch in the Sukkah at Ora & Rena's; preschoolers invited
• 10:00 am, Shabbat service for Sukkot at the home of Rabbi Kahn, 61 Ford Street

15 Sunday
21 Tishri
• 11 am, Women's Chronic Illness group
• 7 pm, Festival service for Simchat Torah—consecration of new students

16 Monday
22 Tishri
• 8:30am, Morning Minyan Festival Service for Simchat Torah
• 6 pm, Healing service
• 7 pm, Newsletter layout

17 Tuesday
23 Tishri
• 7 pm, Membership committee meeting

18 Wednesday
24 Tishri
• 7:15 pm, Jewish Faith & Heritage
• 8:30pm, Beginning Prayerbook Hebrew 1B

19 Thursday
25 Tishri
• 6:30pm, Bikkur Cholim meeting
• 7:30pm, Israel trip meeting

20 Friday
26 Tishri
• 6 pm, Shabbat dinner for members with HIV/AIDS
• 8:15 pm, East Bay service
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat service

21 Saturday
27 Tishri
• 9:30 am, Kadimah
• 4:30 pm, Torah study

22 Sunday
28 Tishri
• 10:30am, Unveiling for Don Albert

23 Monday
29 Tishri
• 8:30am, Morning Minyan

24 Tuesday
30 Tishri

25 Wednesday
1 Heshvan
• 7:15 pm, Jewish Faith & Heritage
• 8:30pm, Beginning Prayerbook Hebrew 1B

26 Thursday
2 Heshvan
• 6:30 pm, Ritual committee
• 7pm, Newsletter distribution

27 Friday
3 Heshvan
• 7pm, Tot Shabbat
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat service

28 Saturday
4 Heshvan
• 9:30 am, Kadimah

29 Sunday
5 Heshvan
• 10:30am, Kaiser brunch

30 Monday
6 Heshvan
• 8:30am, Morning Minyan

31 Tuesday
7 Heshvan

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

NOVEMBER FORWARD DEADLINES

FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@aol.com). To place a classified ad, call the office.

FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

Please submit articles both on 3½-inch disk and hard copy on paper *double spaced*. Write "Attn. *Gaily Forward*" on top and mail to CSZ. *No deadline extensions without advance permission from the editorial coordinator (821-3855) or kalis@out.org, internet.*

East Bay Services

10/20 Judy Schwartz and Carolyn Pines, 2821 55th Ave., Oakland, 510/532-9661.

11/17 Location TBA.

Please join us for dinner at a nearby restaurant. For details call Shelley Spiro, 510/482-5967.

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